

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 12 are currently pending. Claims 1-12 and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,577,535 (Pasternak) in view of U.S. Patent 6,732,304 (Ong) and U.S. Patent No. 5,796,285 (Drouot).

Please amend Claim 1 as set forth herein. No new matter has been added.

Regarding the rejection of independent Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), the Examiner states that the combination of Pasternak in view of Ong and Drouot teach each and every limitation of the claim.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite, in part, that each local DC voltage generator receives from said power control unit a power control signal for controlling the power supplied to the local DC generator and its at least one unit of the plurality of subsystems and receives from said clock control unit a clock control signal for controlling the timing of the local DC generator and its at least one unit of the plurality of subsystems.

Support for the amendment to Claim 1 can be found at least at the specification at the following locations: page 6, lines 5-7; page 6 lines 16-24; page 7, lines 15-16; page 6, lines 16-19; page 6, lines 20-22; FIG. 2; and, FIG. 3.

Pasternak teaches a separate chip enable signal and pump enable signal only controlling one memory block. Ong and Drouot do not cure the defects of Pasternak.

A local DC voltage generator that receives from said power control unit a power control signal for controlling the power supplied to the local DC generator and its at least one unit of the plurality of subsystems and that receives from said clock control unit a clock control signal for

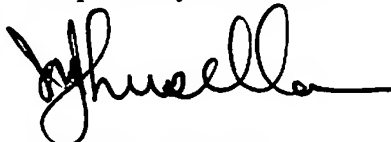
controlling the timing of the local DC generator and its at least one unit of the plurality of subsystems of amended Claim 1 are neither taught nor disclosed by any combination of Pasternak, Ong and Drouot.

Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 2-10 and 12, these are likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of their dependence on their respective amended independent claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of dependent Claims 2-10 and 12 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-10 and 12, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Musella", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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